## Council Agenda Packet

Monday, June 30th, 2025 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Chambers



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Please visit: <a href="https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil">https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil</a> to review additional documents: 1) Government Capital Report, 2) Cascade West Council of Governments June Newsletter, 3) ODOT Ramp Closure of Exit 209, and 3) League of Oregon Cities &

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**Financials** 

OGEC.



## **Council Meeting**

Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 **Location:** Council Chambers

#### **AGENDA**

### **Regular Session**

7:00 p.m.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4) ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 5) MINUTES: May 28th, 2025
- 6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:
  - A. Muddy Creek Solar Park | Troy Jones
  - B. Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing | FY 2025.2026
  - C. Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026
- 7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
  - A. Sheriff
  - B. Public Works
  - C. Administrator
  - D. Planning
  - E. Library
  - F. Office
  - G. Council
- 8) CITIZEN COMMENTS (Non-agenda & Agenda items)
  - ★ Council asks that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member. Please state your name and address prior to commenting for the public record.
- 9) LEGISLATIVE:
  - A. **Resolution 2025.09:** Water Rates Annual Adjustments
  - B. **Resolution 2025.10:** Sewer Rates Annual Adjustments
  - C. **Resolution 2025.11:** Adopting FY 2025.2026 Annual Budget



- D. **Resolution 2025.12:** Year End Transfers
- 10) ACTION ITEMS:
  - A. Approve Delinquent Assessments
- 11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
  - A. OLCC | Local Licenses
  - B. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) | TMDL | Shade Study
  - C. May Financials
- 12) COUNCIL QUESTIONS & COMMENTS
- 13) ADJOURN

Please visit <u>www.ci.brownsville.or.us</u> for the meeting agenda, agenda packet and other City information.

#### May 28th, 2025

**ROLL CALL:** Council President Lynda Chambers called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Councilor Eversull, Councilor Hansen, Councilor LaCoste, Councilor Winklepleck, and Councilor Solberg present. Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, Superintendent Karl Frink, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

**ABSENT:** Mayor Craven was excused.

<u>PUBLIC</u>: Sravya Tadepalli, Chenoweth Robertson, Sherri Lemhouse, Linda McCormick, Alice Tetamore, Penny Rosenberg (*Democrat Herald*), Chelly Bouferrache (*The New Era* | *Sweet Home*), Bill Hand, and Deputy Steve Frambes (*Linn County Sheriff's Office*).

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:** Deletions included: 11) B. CIS Insurance Renewals.

**NEW CITIZEN'S COMMENT PROCEDURE**: Mr. McDowell read into the record the new procedure for Citizen's Comments. The City of Brownsville has hosted public comment periods on Council agenda for years. Initially, there were four inputs on the agenda where the public could speak during a regular session Council meeting, without a time allotment for speakers. These practices were modified due to inefficiency and under the advisement of the League of Oregon Cities.

In 2010, Council changed to two Citizen Comments agenda inputs. The State's Public Meetings Law ensures that anyone can watch all proceedings of Council, with exceptions for executive sessions. The City values citizen input and continues the practice of multiple public comment periods, although the second comment period is rarely used.

Council passed an update to the Council Handbook on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, eliminating the citizen comment input at the end of the agenda. Now, there will be one public comment period listed on every regular session Council agenda, following Item 7). Staff Report.

Participants must sign up prior to the start of the meeting and are allotted three minutes unless otherwise noted. The full Citizen Comments portion will not exceed thirty minutes unless extended by vote of Council.

People wishing to speak are encouraged to meet with Staff, send a letter, email, or make a phone call prior to addressing an issue with Council. Contact information for Councilors and Staff can be found on the City website.

The Council meeting is for the Council to discharge the business of the City, and questions should be directed to Staff or Councilors at the conclusion of the meeting.

For tonight, anyone wanting to speak should see Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow to sign up. In the future, there will be a sign-up sheet available before the Council meeting commences for those that wish to speak during citizen comments portion of the meeting.

**MINUTES:** Councilor Solberg made a motion to approve the April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:**

- 1. **Stand By Me Day** | **Linda McCormick.** Mrs. McCormick talked about the planned activities including walking tours, antique cars, and the fan forum that will be held in the Rec Center. This year the event will be held on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025. To learn more about the event, visit https://linnparks.com/museums/linn-county-historical-museum.
  - Councilor Winklepleck made a motion to approve the street closure request for the 2025 Stand By Me event. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
- 2. <u>Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing Hearing | FY 2025.2026.</u> Councilor Chambers opened the public hearing and asked for comments or discussion. No public comments were made. The public hearing was closed.
- 3. <u>Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026.</u> Councilor Chambers opened the public hearing and asked for comments or discussion. No public comments were made. The public hearing was closed. Mr. McDowell stated that the budget and budget details are on the City website. He highlighted a few of the key components included in the 2025.2026 budget. The full budget will be approved at the June Council meeting as well as the tax rate, Wastewater Bond Debt levy amount, Water Bond Debt levy, utility rate increase, and approve the use of State Revenue Sharing.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- 1. <u>Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | Sergeant Steve Frambes</u>. Sergeant Frambes reported there were 32 traffic stops last month yielding 1 DUI, and 3 warrants. Property crimes included a break-in at the local 76 station where cases of Coors Light were stolen. Stella Jones also experienced chainsaws being stolen. Event season is here, which is the busy season for the LCSO.
- 2. <u>Public Works (PW).</u> Superintendent Frink reported that the Park Caretakers have arrived and started their duties in the park. They are doing a great job so far. Frink is awaiting a new hydrant to fix the damaged hydrant on Park Avenue. Public Works will be relocating the hydrant. The Public Works team have been busy tending to mowing City properties. The team completed maintenance at Pioneer Cemetery, so everything looked great for Memorial Day.
- 3. <u>Administration.</u> Administrator Scott McDowell reported that Councilors received their Council goals committee assignments. Council goals will be handled by several sub committees which will report back to Council. Breakout sessions will commence soon.

McDowell stated that the annual audit date will be set soon. McDowell reported that Rob Hess has been named the new Superintendent for the Central Linn School District.

Mr. McDowell reported work will begin soon on the transition of the City website. McDowell is hoping to launch the new site this summer. The new website comes with a host of services that may be useful in the future.

Frink and McDowell submitted the required information for all City property & equipment insurance coverages.

McDowell shared a letter from Pacific Power urging customers with medical concerns to investigate a generator due to possible power interruptions.

4. **Planning.** Mrs. Coleman reviewed the FEMA PICM status and options. The City chose a permit-by-permit basis; however, this is an active case and will be changing during this year or next. Coleman touched on Senate Bill 6 & 974, both bills aim to restrict local control by adopting unmanageable timeframes for building permit reviews. She shared the City's process in working

with a developer or a person building a home. The City always tries to get to "yes" for folks building in town, but Staff must ensure the Brownsville Municipal Code, the Public Works Standards and applicable laws and requirements are met. Staff is concerned about protecting the City systems and protecting rate and taxpayer's investment in critical infrastructure. The City does not design projects, nor does the City dictate who can build or what they can build other than those general parameters found in the Code. A common misunderstanding is that the City dictates details that are private matters.

- 5. <u>Library.</u> Mrs. Lemhouse presented information on passes to the Oregon Gardens, the Gilbert House, the Museum of Natural & Cultural History at the University of Oregon, and the Oregon State Parks. Stop by the Library to check out these passes. To learn more about happenings at the Library, please visit https://www.brownsvillecommunitylibrary.org/.
- 6. Office. Mrs. Morrow discussed the City's abatement process. She was happy to report that the program is going well. The City has been assisted by Sweet Home Sanitation, Linn County Sheriff's Office & Public Works through the years to clean up properties that were in violation of the Brownsville Municipal Code. Council has modified ordinances to give Staff the proper tools to advance this program. The City works with property owners to keep property in compliance and nearly everyone does a great job keeping Brownsville looking its best and ensuring safety for fire protection. Councilor Winklepleck asked about legislation around RV's. McDowell stated that was one of the goals that Council elected not to pursue this year.
- 7. <u>Council Comments.</u> Councilor Winklepleck requested that Mayor Craven & Mr. McDowell draft a letter to Pacific Power about the power blips. Council agreed by consensus for the letter to be sent. Councilor Eversull complimented Mr. McDowell for negotiating a great deal for the City with the website folks.
- 8. **Citizen Comments.** No comments.

#### **LEGISLATIVE:**

1. **Resolution 2025.08** | **Election to Receive State Revenue Sharing.** Councilor Eversull asked Mr. McDowell to review the history of this legislation. If Council passes a resolution stating that we offer these things, we are eligible for the funding. Historically, the City has used these funds to pay for our streetlights, which is approximately \$90,000 per year. The City does get charged the same amount per fixture, regardless of whether they are LED or not. The saving is on power generation for the utility, but not cost savings for the City. Pacific Power is also on a time deadline for changing all streetlight to LED.

Councilor Hansen moved to approve R 2025.08 as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Ordinance 808 | Nuisance Abatement Modification | Brownsville Municipal Code. (Second Reading). Councilor Chambers asked for questions or discussion.

Councilor Hansen made a motion to read by title only. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Councilor Eversull made a motion to approve O 808. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. <u>Linn County Museum | Hands on History Request.</u> Connie Bull requested the closure of Park Avenue & Averill Street to accommodate the event. After discussion, Council approved the use

of Library Park and the closure of Park Avenue, as historically done, but did not authorize the closure of Averill Street as presented.

Councilor Hansen moved to approve the Hands On History agreement like last year, striking paragraph 2. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Central Linn School District (CLSD) | IGA. Mr. McDowell reported that Council has been working on developing an agreement of green space and facilities around youth sports for over a year. CLSD's interim superintendent is Cathy Hurowitz. Staff met with Hurowitz, a few Board members, the Athletic Director, and two Central Linn Recreation Association (CLRA) representatives to discuss the issue and hopefully move forward. The superintendent expressed concerns about the maintenance of the fields and the conditions of the facilities after use. This issue was addressed by implementing use requirements. A JBO field, with certain parameters, will be created for the rec sports to play games on. McDowell praised the District for making improvements to a field for use this season, namely Kellen Hobie & David Karo. McDowell explained the District has had difficulty with the public using the fields in improper ways. McDowell added language that requires photographic documentation to assist with those concerns.

Councilor Solberg moved to approve a reciprocating agreement for the use of certain facilities and green space for youth athletics with the Central Linn School District. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The CLRA is the primary beneficiary of this agreement.

3. <u>James Land Lease Agreement.</u> Mr. McDowell reported that the City has had a land lease with the James' since 1979. There was an issue with the north wastewater treatment plant last summer. Staff have met with the parties and then put together an agreement going forth. McDowell is basically asking for Council's approval to go forth. If there are any substantive changes to the agreement, the agreement will be placed on the agenda for Council approval.

Councilor Winklepleck made a motion to authorize Mr. McDowell, Mr. Frink, and Councilor Chambers to go forth with this agreement. Councilor Hansen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**4.** <u>June Council Meeting Schedule.</u> Mr. McDowell requested a date change for the June Council meeting due to scheduling conflicts. June is one of the biggest business meetings for Council, adoption of the budget and other financial documents.

Councilor Hansen made a motion to move the June Council meeting date to Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 due to scheduling conflicts. Councilor Eversull seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. <u>785 Butte Street | Private Construction.</u> Mr. McDowell explained to Council the ongoing complaints received from the residents of 785 Butte Street charging that Staff has not been doing their job. Staff believe the basis of this allegation is a personality dispute between the neighbors. Predominantly, they have complained of trespass issues and drainage issues with a vacant lot being built out next door.

Mr. McDowell, Mr. Frink, and Mrs. Coleman have all responded several times to their complaints and disputes, but have found no noncompliance issues or discrepancies with requirements. Mr. Frink recapped several conversations and complaints he has addressed with the folks, to no avail. Frink explained how he went above and beyond checking the drainage to ensure it met the City's regulations. Frink has also explained to the Doren's how to remedy their situation.



McDowell admits to being a bit frustrated with the situation, stating that the City has done everything, and more, that needed to be done. Staff have gone above and beyond in dealing with this situation. This is not a Council issue, it is a Staff level issue. Mrs. Coleman remarked that it is time for resolution of the issue.

Staff have tried very hard to come alongside the property owner when we can, but their concerns are simply not a City issue. McDowell said that no one can absolve themselves from the responsibility of maintaining their sidewalks. The Brownsville Municipal Code states clearly what the property owner is responsible for. McDowell added that the retaining walls are the sole responsibility of the property owner as well.

Councilor Chambers remarked that she felt it has now become a personal attack on Staff. Councilor Hansen commented that Council has been hearing these complaints for over 2 years now. Councilor Eversull queried what it was that the residents want from Council? McDowell responded that the property owner wants her issues resolved, but these issues are not resolvable. McDowell stated that Staff work very hard to do what we can for the City and community residents, but sometimes, there is nothing that can be good enough to appease folks. These issues need to be kept at a Staff level, and Council could encourage folks to deal directly with Staff in these sorts of instances.

2.	<b>April</b>	Fina	ncials.	No	comments.
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City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

CITIZEN QUESTIONS	&	COMMENTS.	. No comments.
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**COUNCIL COMMENTS.** No comments.

<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b> Councilor Eversull moved to ad	djourn at 8:31 p.m. Councilor LaCoste secondec
the motion, and it passed unanimously.	

Mayor Adam Craven

#### June 30th, 2025

From: S. Scott McDowell
To: Mayor & Council
Re: General Business

**Note:** The first section of this report follows the Council meeting agenda and provides an overview of topics to be discussed the night of Council. If an item title is **highlighted in green**, that means the item is part of Council Goals. When you see this symbol,  $\square$ , it means more information will be provided at the meeting.

'If you think having uncomfortable conversations is hard, wait until you reap the results of not having them."

~ Ignacio Carcavello

"People never forget the way you make them feel."

~ Maya Angelou

"An apology holds no weight if you have to ask for it."

~ John Arburthnot Fisher, British Admiral





# AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION The following items follow the order of the Agenda

#### 6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:

- **A.** <u>Muddy Creek Solar Park Update | Troy Jones</u> Troy Jones will be providing an update for Council.
- **B.** Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing | FY 2025.2026 Mayor Craven will open the floor to anyone from the public wishing to speak or make recommendations for State Revenue Sharing funds. The Budget Committee recommended using the funds for public safety (*street lighting*) as has been the City's past practice. Anyone from the public can speak to any part of the budget they choose for Council's consideration.

## What is Council being asked to do?

Take public comment, if any.

**C.** Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026 – Mayor Craven will leave the floor open for anyone from the public wishing to speak about the budget as proposed by the Budget Committee. Next month, the public will have another opportunity to comment on the budget prior to appropriation and official adoption.

Items included by the Budget Committee in this FY 2025.2026 budget are below:

★ Approve the Full Permanent Tax Rate – \$6.9597 per \$1,000.



- ★ Approve the levy amount needed for the Wastewater Bond Debt \$78,525.
- ★ Approve the levy amount needed for the Water Bond Debt \$52,350.
- ★ Recommend a 3% Utility Rate Increase for the upcoming fiscal year.
- ★ Approve Historic Use of State Revenue Sharing (Streetlights).
- ★ Approve and recommend the continued use of all designated funds and line items contained in this FY 2025.2026 budget document.

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Take public comment, if any. Adopt the FY 2025.2026 budget.

#### 9) LEGISLATIVE:

**A.** Resolution 2025.09: Water Rates Annual Adjustments — Each year Council passes a utility rates resolution. The Budget Committee recommends a 3% increase for the water and sewer utilities. Below are the current rates and proposed increases for your review:

<u>In-City</u>	3%	<u>Out-of-City</u>	<b>3</b> %
\$32.45	\$33.42	\$48.86	\$50.33
\$2.10	\$2.16	\$2.72	\$2.80
\$2.34	\$2.41	\$3.05	\$3.14
\$2.41	\$2.48	\$3.33	\$3.43
\$2.62	\$2.70	\$3.42	\$3.52

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Pass this resolution to officially adopt new water rates for the upcoming fiscal year.

**B.** Resolution 2025.10: Sewer Rates Annual Adjustments — Each year Council passes a utility rates resolution. The Budget Committee recommends a 3% increase for the water and sewer utilities. Below are the current rates and proposed increases for your review:

<u>In-City</u>	<b>3</b> %		Out-of-City	3%
\$44.25	\$45.58		\$67.20	\$69.22
\$52.04	\$53.60			
\$56.23	\$57.92			
\$62.10	\$63.96			
\$56.23	\$57.92	[Sewer Only]		

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Pass this resolution to officially adopt new sewer rates for the upcoming fiscal year.

C. Resolution 2025.11: Adopting FY 2025.2026 Budget & Making Appropriations – Each year Council must pass three resolutions to certify the annual budget. The City has historically accomplished this by adopting one resolution in accordance with State Law. The resolution adopts the upcoming fiscal year's budget, makes appropriations, and imposes & categorizes taxes. Any changes to the budget from this forward would require a supplemental budget. The FY 2025.2026 Budget can be found on the City website at

https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/bc-budget. (Also related is the delinquent assessments information that will be passed under Action Items.)

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Pass this resolution to officially adopt the budget appropriations and impose taxes.

**D.** Resolution 2025.12: Year End Transfers FY 2024.2025 – Council passes a fiscal year end transfer resolution to properly account for transactions that happened during the fiscal year that may have exceeded line-item spending limits and show other relevant accounting items.

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Pass this resolution to approve these year-end transfers.

#### 10) ACTION ITEMS:

**A.** Approve Delinquent Assessments (Annual) — Annually, Council includes delinquent assessments to cover utility accounts over a certain amount. These assessments are then filed with the Linn County Assessor's Office so the City can recuperate utility costs.

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Approve the assessments.

#### 11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **A.** OLCC | Local Licenses The State of Oregon changed their processes two years ago. Staff will provide a quick review of the process required by the State.
- **B.** <u>Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)</u> The City received a certified letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requiring a Shade Study be conducted by the City.



C. May Financials

#### **UPDATES, INFORMATION & HAPPENINGS**

<u>Linn County Sheriff's Office Monthly Report | [G1]</u> – The City is under contract for 200 hours per month. The eighteen-month average looks like this:

### LCSO Month-to-Month Comparison (18 months)

		Traffic	Traffic	
Year	Month	Citations	Warnings	Hours
2025	May	6	12	217
2025	April	16	16	229
2025	March	16	13	204.75
2025	February	46	32	208.5
2025	January	30	45	203.25



## City Administrator Report

2024	December	7	17	201.75
2024	November	13	23	200
2024	October	17	16	204.75
2024	September	15	17	202
2024	August	17	17	201.75
2024	July	15	23	296.75
2024	June	33	51	200
2024	May	36	32	200
2024	April	10	22	201.25
2024	March	17	28	209.25
2024	February	19	66	212.75
2024	January	13	34	204
2023	December	11	20	218.25
	Subtotal	337	484	3815
Tota	l Average	18.72	26.89	211.94
		Cites	Warnings	Hours

**LCSO Quarterly Meeting** – The meeting was reschedule for July 10<sup>th</sup>. If anyone has any questions, now would be a good time to let Councilor Chambers, Councilor Solberg or myself know. Thanks!

<u>Active: Budget Preparations</u> – Staff continues completing requirements for the proper adoption of the budget. Resolutions have been filed with ODR. Upon the passage of the budget, Staff will enter the new numbers into the general ledger system and submit all necessary documents to the Linn County Clerk's Office and the Linn County Assessor's Office. Preliminary items will be completed for FY 2026.2027.

From 05.28.2025: Staff prepared for the next phase of budget requirements.

From 04.29.2025: Staff completed putting the budget together last week for the Budget Committee's work.

<u>Fourth of July Report</u> – Staff has made the necessary arrangements for extra portables for the summer events through the Antique Faire. Sweet Home Sanitation helps with additional trash and recycling receptacles. Additional light towers are brought in for the fireworks.

City Hall Painting – Staff will soon release a Request for Proposals for the painting of City Hall.

<u>Alyrica Equipment Report</u> – Alyrica has been working on relocating equipment from the City Hall storage room and upgrading their equipment on the roof of the building.

<u>Insurance Renewals Report</u> – Staff have finalized the coverages for this upcoming policy year.

**Active: REAL Meeting** △ – Staff worked on contracts with Nate Conroy and RAIN alongside Kelly Hart from Lebanon.

*From 05.28.2025:* REAL is moving forward with a consulting agreement to help move the strategic plan forward. Cities are in the process of ratifying IGA's to continue this economic development work.

From 04.29.2025: This agreement is between the cities that comprise REAL. The group recently completed their marketing plan, which was part of their strategic goals, 2023-2027. See above. From 03.25.2025: The meeting was held the day the agenda packet was published. I will provide an oral report.

From 02.25.2025: Setup a meeting with Sweet Home. Attended with other members of REAL to discuss the next steps the Alliance is planning. Sweet Home has experienced a lot of turnover during the last several months. Sweet Home is a keystone partner in this endeavor. I met with Amy Burbee at Linn-Benton Community College (LBCC) along with Dr. Fort & Dr. Moon to explore intership possibilities. The group would like to create a working internship program with LBCC, OSU or Western University to sustain marketing efforts. I created a job description for LBCC and worked on getting an estimate for potentially hiring an administrative intern who would help advance the REAL agenda.

#### **ACTIVE, PENDING, STALLED & COMPLETED**

**<u>Active: James Land Lease Agreement</u>** – Staff met with the James family to discuss logistics.

*From 05.28.2025:* Last summer, the City experienced a hiccup with a land lease the City has had with the James family. Council appointed Councilor Chambers, Public Works Superintendent Frink and City Administrator Scott McDowell to meet with the James family and work on details about creating a new lease. McDowell and City Attorney Ross Williamson have drafted a new agreement to address concerned raised last summer.

From 01.30.25: Staff met to discuss the details of the agreement. McDowell will be drafting an agreement for all parties to review soon.

From 12.17.2024: Time did not allow for any further developments on this matter.

From 11.26.2024: Council approved McDowell's request to include Council President Lynda Chambers in a meeting with Cozetta and Joseph James. Frink, Chambers and McDowell met with James' family and are currently exploring what the options look like for resolving this issue.

<u>Active: ETA 911 Budget Committee Meeting</u> – McDowell continues work on the Committee for the proper passage of the budget.

From 05.28.2025: McDowell has served on this committee for eighteen years. The LCSO puts the budget together for 911 funds collected by Linn County.

<u>Active: Approve Goals Strategy & Timeline | Goal Setting 2025.2026</u> – McDowell and Hart were charged with finalizing agreement with RAIN and Nate Conroy. The next meeting will be held in July.

*From 05.28.2025:* Recently, members were provided with guidelines to move forward on committee assignments.

From 04.29.2025: McDowell will share slides that are found in the agenda packet. please take note as you may be listed to serve on a committee for one or more of the goals Council identified.

From 03.25.2025: Council did not make any decisions at the last meeting. McDowell was asked to sort the goals. The goals were sent to Council members along with a goals attaché explaining the objectives. McDowell plans to use Council members on several of the goals so that more can be

accomplished. Staff are concerned about the numerous items hanging over the City from the State and Federal governments and some sizeable projects remaining from previous years, however, ambitious goals are good to set.

**Active: Streetlight Request** | *Jim Smith* – The streetlight was finally installed.

From 05.28.2025: Apparently, the City's request ended up in "red tape land" at Pacific Power for the last eight months... Mrs. Morrow took the signed contract and the required fee to the power company two weeks ago. Pacific Power once again showing their amazing installation skills. Six months to get a security light in the Rec Center parking lot and nearly a year to get the streetlights installed in the River's Edge subdivision.

From 01.30.25: Still waiting for installation.

From 12.17.2024: The City has ordered the installation from Pacific Power. Installation date is unclear. We will know when it is installed. I will continue to follow-up.

Active: Linn County Housing Rehabilitation Program (LCHRP) – From 10.24.2023: The City collaborates with the communities in Linn County to help low-income homeowners to make improvements to their houses using Federal money (HUD). The City has been a member of this organization for over forty years. Cities take turns being the lead recipient and DevNW manages the funds received. Brownsville had its turn a few years ago. Currently, the City of Lebanon is taking the lead on the current funding request.

Active: Rec Center Renovation Project – From 04.29.2025: Public Works Superintendent ordered the floor scrubber for the maintenance of the new floor. Frink also fixed the low voltage system that was causing so many problems since installed. Bransen Floors made repairs to the carpet squares in the Meeting Room. Frink continues working on chair storage and future table & chair storage solutions.

From 02.25.2025: Staff worked on repairs and logistical issues.

From 01.30.25: Staff reviewed several issues with the Parks & Open Space Advisory Board at their recent meeting. The low voltage fix and the exterior paint continue to be the two most pressing issues. Staff will continue to streamline the requirements for using the building. Right now, there are a lot of 'moving parts' for someone renting the building. We will work through 2025 to iron out the process to make it as user friendly as possible. The Brownsville Senior Center started walking in the mornings in the Rec Center. Community volleyball has also started. Central Linn Recreation Association's Basketball Season is in full swing.

*From 12.17.2024:* Kaci Logan organized the annual Christmas Bazaar in the Rec Center. Logan stated that the use of the facility was very nice although she had hoped for more customers. Staff sent exterior paint concerns to J.E. John's Kyle Marston. The paint peeled within the first four months. The City is hoping for work to be done to remedy this issue.

From 11.26.2024: Staff processed the final payment for J.E. John. Several items remain under warranty while a few other items still require attention.

From 09.24.2024: Staff have been working with J.E. John's Kyle Marston to finalize outstanding details. Continuing concerns include windows finish work, HVAC issues, and requesting an extension for the flooring system through August 2025. Staff have ordered special chairs, and a new volleyball stand for the floor surface in accordance with Tarkett's specifications. Public Works has installed and prepared these items for use. Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver is preparing the rental forms

to match the new requirements of renting each space. Public Works Superintendent Frink has finalized many items including buildings security issues and fixing several of the ongoing lighting issues.

**Pending: Canal Company Agreement Update** – From 05.28.2025: Staff forwarded the operations agreement to the Canal Company but has not heard anything from their leadership.

*From 04.29.2025:* Brownsville Canal Company President Mike Neher conducted a board meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Shortly after opening the meeting, several people took control of the meeting who were not interested in any agreement between the Canal Company and the City. The Board collected membership dues from those wanting to join the Company. The membership voted not to enter into



the proposed agreement between the Canal Company and the City. According to Neher a few days after the meeting, certain people were upset about a provision in the agreement regarding assessments. I explained to Neher that paragraph was in the agreement because it is part of the Company's bylaws.

Ultimately, the City has spent too much time and money on this effort through the years. The City does not have a partnership agreement with the Brownsville Canal

Company. The City has spent tens of thousands of dollars since 2007 attempting to resolve the long-standing historical battle between the Company and certain people – to no avail. The Brownsville Canal Company plans to send out another mailing and hold a meeting soon.

I am recommending Council authorize the new operations agreement found in the agenda packet. The new agreement will require the Company to bore the costs associated with operating the Company's pumps. The City has paid for the electricity costs for nearly twenty years with no reimbursement. The City has allowed Public Works to operate and maintain the pumps and electrical service at no cost to the Canal Company. Last year, the City paid \$400 to cover the cost of the annual insurance premium. It is long overdue for the Company to pay its own bills.

#### What is Council being asked to do?

Authorize the simple operations agreement between the Canal Company for operations.

From 03.25.2025: Staff have been working with the Canal Company Board to prepare for the upcoming vote on whether to enter into an agreement with the City for the financial support needed to operate the Canal/Mill Race. The meeting is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

*From 03.25.2025:* Details continue being ironed out before the next Canal Company meeting. Speculation and heresay continue to swirl.

*From 02.25.2025:* Setup mailing list. Updated the webpage. Update and prepare the agreement for review with the Board. Met with the Canal Company Board to iron out agreement details and make plans for the next Board meeting. The Company will hold a Board meeting and vote on whether to move forward with the agreement with the City.

*From 01.30.25:* Staff finished a major mailing to all affected property owners making them aware of the upcoming Town Hall meetings. Staff finalized presentation details, created a webpage and met with representatives of the Canal Company to review the details. Councilor Chambers attended. Town Hall meetings are scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> in the Community Room.

From 12.17.2024: The City is back on track with the plan of two January Town Halls to unveil the partnership plan with the Canal Company. We have settled on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, and Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for our Town Hall meetings. Both meetings will be held in

Community Room at City Hall starting at 7:00 p.m. These are the dates that will go out next week in the Council synopsis. Council may be asked to authorize a direct mailing to affected parties.

<u>Pending: Central Linn School District & Central Linn Recreation Association IGA</u> – Staff recently met with Central Linn Recreation Association leadership who had several things to add to the agreement. Staff were not pleased with the additions since the agreement took over a year to complete. The City will revisit the additional requests with the new interim superintendent this summer.

*From 05.28.2025:* The City will meet with the Central Linn Recreation Association Board to discuss the details and operational requirements.

From 04.29.2025: School Board member Garrett Leabo recently invited staff to address the facilities agreement. Staff have another meeting with interim School Superintendent Cathy Hurowitz scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

*From 01.30.25:* Yet to hear from the School District, but with the loss of their Superintendent they have other issues to manage. I will be checking in with them again soon.

**Pending: Geider Development** – From 04.29.2025: Geider has filed a lawsuit against Banuelos.

*From 03.25.2025:* The issue was turned over to the City Attorney's Office. After spending the last eight months attempting to work out a reasonable compromise based on the Brownsville Municipal Code and general practices of the City, the parties hit a substantial impasse. The City extended several courtesies that were not met with cooperation.

From 02.25.2025: Continued working with the parties involved.

From 01.30.25: Staff met multiple times with Blossom Van Kinkle who is the attorney representing the Geider family. The meeting resulted in a meeting with Sara Banuelos who has been impacted by this development as the Geider family attempts to explore their options. Staff will continue to work with Van Kinkle toward a solution.

**Completed: Sweet Home Sanitation | Ash Street Collection** – *From 05.28.2025:* The City has not heard any complaints or concerns from any of the involved parties.

From 04.29.2025: Staff forwarded emails regarding the collection service for Ash Street. Basically, SHS needs to avoid backing into intersections which has caused the concern brought forward by Jared Sweezey at the last Council meeting. I have included the letter SHS sent the customers and some suggestions Staff made to resolve the situation.

<u>Completed: Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) Meeting</u> – *From 05.28.2025:* Staff will review on Tuesday evening.

From 03.25.2025: The Committee met to discuss issues and strategies moving forward on City items. McDowell reviewed LAPC purpose, history, and what the future looks like in terms of the City's grassroots. McDowell will provide them with links to follow and weigh in on the issues like Recreational Immunity and HB 3115. The approved policy directives were given to the members for review.

Approve Goals Strategy & Timeline | Goal Setting 2025.2026 – From 04.29.2025: McDowell will share slides that are found in the agenda packet. please take note as you may be listed to serve on a committee for one or more of the goals Council identified.

From 03.25.2025: Council did not make any decisions at the last meeting. McDowell was asked to sort the goals. The goals were sent to Council members along with a goals attaché explaining the objectives. McDowell plans to use Council members on several of the goals so that more can be accomplished. Staff are concerned about the numerous items hanging over the City from the State and Federal governments and some sizeable projects remaining from previous years, however, ambitious goals are good to set.

#### **Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC)**

<u>Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC)</u>  $\triangle$  – SMAC will be reassessing several components moving through the summer and fall.

*From 05.28.2025:* Still working on progressing the two bills. The group has been experiencing serious hurdles.

From 04.29.2025: The group continues having success pushing two bills concerning grant funding and lagoon certification.

*From 03.25.2025:* The group has been busy providing testimony for the two bills being pushed by SMAC for this legislative session. A formation meeting was held and steps for moving forward were discussed.

From 02.25.2025: Worked on a plan moving forward with the collective group due to Sean Tate recently resigning. Tate will stay on through the current legislative session.

From 01.30.25: Tate and the group are driving toward developing bills on identified issues. There has been a lot of continued interest from communities inquiring about how to join and get help on legislative positions.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Scott McDowell City Administrator

Please visit the City website at <a href="https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us">https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us</a> for all kinds of information pertaining to the City's business & operations.

★ Kirk Avenue History ★ Calapooia Riverbank ★ Plus much more

## PLANNING AT A GLANCE June 2025

## <u>Permits</u> Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fence, Etc.

•	Mechanical	Mini Split	403 N Main St
•	Mechanical	Replace AC	229 Washburn St
•	Structural	Solar System	843 Pebble St
•	Plumbing	Commercial (previous)	217 W Bishop Way
•	Fence		809 Stonebrook St
•	Fence		1118 Oak St
•	Construction	Deck	785 Pebble St
•	Fence		817 Stonebrook St
•	Fence		819 Stonebrook St
•	Fence		775 Pebble St
•	Fence		190 S Main St
•	Fence		285 Hunter St
•	Accessory Structure	e 200 Sq Ft	285 Hunter St
•	Sign		343 N Main St
•	Fence		821 Stonebrook St
•	Fence		796 Pebble St

Thank you,

Elizabeth E. Glewan



## LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

#### Michelle Duncan, Sheriff

1115 S.E. Jackson Street, Albany, OR 97322 Albany, OR. 97322 Phone: 541-967-3950 www.linnsheriff.org

## 2025

## MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE FROM THE LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FOR THE MONTH OF: MAY	
TRAFFIC CITATIONS:	6
TRAFFIC WARNINGS:	12
TRAFFIC CRASHES:	0
ARRESTS MADE:	3
COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED:	109

**TOTAL HOURS SPENT:** 

**BROWNSVILLE** 217 hours

**CONTRACT HOURS = 200 HOURS** 

Michelle Duncan, Sheriff, Linn County

By: Sgt. Steven Frambes



A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A 3% RATE INCREASE FOR FISCAL YEAR '25-ADJUSTING OTHER FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY BROWNSVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 13.05, ARTICLE II. WATER REGULATIONS (ORDINANCE NO. 534); AND REPEALING AND/OR SUPERCEDING ANY OTHER RESOLUTION IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

**WHEREAS**, Sections 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 17(1), and 17(2) of Ordinance No. 534 of the City of Brownsville, passed by the Council and approved by the Mayor on October 26th, 1981, and the Brownsville Municipal Code, Chapter 13.05, Article II. Water Regulations authorizes charges and fees to be set by Resolution of the Council and reviewed annually,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the rates and fees are set as follows:

#### WATER SERVICE CONNECTION FEE

The Water Service Connection Fee charged for 3/4" residential service to offset connection plan review costs, service connection installation costs, administrative and other related costs shall be as follows:

Water Service Connection Fee

\$ 1,500.00

\$2.50

Larger services shall be charged based upon additional materials costs and reasonable installation charges.

#### MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE

#### In-City

<b>Base Rate</b> Additional From	<b>o - 300 c.f.</b> 301 - 600 c.f. 601 - 1000 c.f. 1001 - 1500 c.f. 1501+ c.f.	\$ 33.42 \$ 2.16 per hundred c.f. \$ 2.41 per hundred c.f. \$ 2.48 per hundred c.f. \$ 2.70 per hundred c.f.
Out-of-City		

Base Rate	o - 300 c.f.	<b>\$ 50.33</b>
Additional From	301 - 600 c.f.	\$ 2.80 per hundred c.f.
	601 - 1000 c.f.	\$ 3.14 per hundred c.f.
	1001 - 1500 c.f.	\$ 3.43 per hundred c.f.
	1501+ c.f.	\$ 3.52 per hundred c.f.

#### Water Capital Improvement Fee

#### METER TEST FEE

Flow test deposit\* \* To be returned if meter registers more than 3% fast.



TURN-OFF FEE			
Customer Requ	Customer Requested Turn-off		
ACCOUNT DEPOSIT			
New Accounts		\$ 100.00	
RESTORATION CHARGE			
City Initiated T	`urn-off	\$ 15.00	
DELINQUENT ACCOUNTS			
Late fee for De Charge for Not	linquent Notice ice of Shutoff	\$ 7.50 \$ 10.00	
RETURNED CHECK CHAR	<u>GE</u>		
Each Check Ret	urned by Bank	\$ 45.00	
	o. 534 and the Brownsv	Resolutions setting rates and fees ville Municipal Code, Chapter 13.05, l.	
This Resolution shall become the City Council.	e effective July 1st, 2025	, upon being passed and approved by	
Passed and approved	by the City Council (	on this 30 <sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.	
	Approved	<b>1</b> :	
Attest:	Mayor Ada	m Craven	
City Administrator S. Scott M	/IcDowell		



A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A 3% RATE INCREASE FOR FISCAL YEAR '25-'26 AND ADJUSTING OTHER FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY THE BROWNSVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 13.05, ARTICLE I. SEWER REGULATIONS (ORDINANCE NO. 489); AND REPEALING AND/OR SUPERCEDING ANY OTHER RESOLUTION IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, Section 19 and Section 22 of Ordinance No. 489 of the City of Brownsville passed by the Council and approved by the Mayor on March 7, 1980, and amended by Ordinance No. 582, passed by the Council and approved by the Mayor on August 15, 1988, and the Brownsville Municipal Code, Chapter 13.05, Article I. **Sewer Regulations** authorizes charges and fees to be set by Resolution of the Council and reviewed annually,

**WHEREAS**, the City has undertaken major renovations to the sanitary treatment works and collection systems and,

**WHEREAS**, at the direction of financial advisors have set rates in accordance with projections of expenditures to retire debt incurred by said improvements to meet contact requirements with Government Capital Corporation (GCC) 2021 No. 9366 and Series 2016 Refunding Bonds. Rates must be maintained to meet debt obligations.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the rates and fees will be as follows:

#### **SEWER SERVICE CHARGES**

The City of Brownsville to ensure sufficient revenue is generated to pay the total operational and maintenance costs for the proper operation and maintenance of the treatment works and that proportional distribution of operational and maintenance costs among users and user classes is maintained determines that sewer service charges against every property served by the City sewer system shall be based on water usage. An average winter usage will be determined for each customer and that customer will be charged accordingly. Any sewer customers not connected to City water will have the choice of either installing a meter on their well and paying according to that meter reading or paying the rate which falls under the 600-800 cubic feet in the sewer rate structure.

The monthly rates shall be as follows:

#### **In-City Sewer Charges:**

Average Usage	=	0 - 300 c.f. 400 - 500 c.f. 600 - 800 c.f. 900 + c.f.	\$ 45.58 \$ 53.60 \$ 59.92 \$ 63.96
Sewer Only			\$ 57.92



Out-of-City Sewer Charges	_	\$ 69.22
Sewer Debt Service (Monthly Flat Rate	: Charge)	\$ 15.00
APPLICATION, PERMIT & INSPECTION		
The Sewer Service Connection Fee chars shall cover plan review, inspection and follows:		
Sewer Service Connection Fee		\$ 250.00
RETURNED CHECK CHARGE		
Each Check Returned by Bank		\$ 45.00
<b>BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED</b> that all particle I. <b>Sewer Regulations</b> are hereby rep	ownsville Municipal	
This Resolution shall become	ne effective July 1st, 20	025.
Passed and approved by the City C	ouncil on this 30 <sup>th</sup>	of June 2025.
	Approved:	
Attest:	Mayor Adam Crave	n
City Administrator S. Scott McDowell		



#### RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council for the City of Brownsville hereby adopts the budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 in the sum of \$9,024,020, including transfers totaling \$189,800, now on file at City Hall.

#### RESOLUTION MAKING APPROPRIATIONS

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the amounts for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2025, and for the purposes shown below are hereby appropriated:

GENERAL FUND			DEBT SERVICE		
Administration	\$	513,650	Bond Payment	\$	58,000
Parks & Cemetery	\$	454,435	Unappropriated	\$	0
Library	\$ \$ \$	320,750	Fund Total	\$	58,000
Law		278,200	Appropriated Total	\$	58,000
Operations	\$	686,300			
Transfers (In)	\$	100,000	HOUSING REHABILIT	AT	ION
Transfers (Out)	\$	88,000	Capital Outlay	\$	0
Unappropriated	\$	931,170	Transfer (Out)	\$	100,000
Fund Total	\$	3,272,505	Unappropriated	\$	157,500
Appropriated Total	\$	2,341,335	Fund Total	\$	257,500
			Appropriated Total	\$	100,000
WATER FUND					
Administration	\$	367,100	BUILDINGS & EQUIPN		
Operations	\$	684,400	Capital Outlay	\$	165,000
Transfer (Out)	\$	0	Transfer (Out)	\$	0
Unappropriated	<u>\$</u> \$	20,100	Unappropriated	\$	42,200
Fund Total		1,017,600	Fund Total	\$	207,200
Appropriated Total	\$	1,051,500	Appropriated Total	\$	165,000
SEWER FUND			WATER SYSTEM RESI	ERV	<b>E</b>
Administration	\$	403,450	Capital Outlay	\$	100,000
Operations	\$	371,550	Unappropriated	\$	141,500
Transfers (Out)	\$	0	Fund Total	\$	241,500
Unappropriated	\$	527,380	Appropriated Total	\$	100,000
Fund Total	\$	1,302,380			
Appropriated Total	\$	775,000	WATER SDC		
			Unappropriated	\$	124,500
STREET FUND			Fund Total	\$	124,500
Personal Services	\$	203,500	Appropriated Total	\$	O
Materials & Services	\$	122,400			
Capital Outlay	\$	62,500	SEWER SDC		
Transfers (Out)	\$	1,800	Capital Outlay	\$	500,000
Unappropriated	\$	22,650	Unappropriated	\$	440,000
Fund Total	\$ \$	451,850	Fund Total	\$	940,000
Appropriated Total	and the same of th	429,200	Appropriated Total	\$	500,000



STORMWATER SDC Capital Outlay Unappropriated Fund Total Appropriated Total	\$ \$ \$	250,000 120,300 370,300 250,000	CEMETERY TRUST Capital Outlay Unappropriated Fund Total Appropriated Total	\$ \$ \$	35,000 66,450 101,450 35,000
LAND ACQUISITION Capital Outlay Fund Total Appropriated Total	\$ \$ \$	9,985 9,985 9,985	SEWER BOND Bond Payments Unappropriated	\$ <u>\$</u>	304,003 98,247
COMMUNITY PROJECT	<b>TS</b> \$	20,000	Fund Total Appropriated Total	<b>\$</b> <b>\$</b>	402,250 304,003
Capital Outlay Unappropriated Fund Total Appropriated Total	\$ \$ \$	40,000 18,550 78,550 60,000	WATER BOND Bond Payments Unappropriated Fund Total Appropriated Total	\$ \$ \$	46,937 3,063 50,000
			Appropriated Total Unappropriated Total Total Budget	<b>\$6</b>	46,937 <b>6,225,960</b> 2,798,060* <b>9,024,020</b>

<sup>\*</sup> Note: Unappropriated balances are from all accounts including General, Water, Sewer Street, Water SDC, Buildings & Equipment, Cemetery Trust, Community Projects, Water System Reserve, Land Acquisition, Water Bond, Sewer Bond, Stormwater SDC, Sewer SDC equals an unappropriated total of \$2,798,060. Certain unappropriated amounts were not included above because those funds had no appropriation amounts; those two funds include Library Trust & Bikeway/Footpath and that subtotal unappropriated is \$84,450 but it is included in the unappropriated total of \$2,798,060 shown above.

#### RESOLUTION IMPOSING AND CATAGORIZING TAXES

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council for the City of Brownsville hereby imposes the taxes as provided in the adopted budget at the rate of \$6.9597 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations; and in the amount of \$52,350 for Water Bond Debt Service; and in the amount of \$78,525 for Sewer Bond Debt Service; and that these taxes are hereby imposed and categorized for tax year 2025-2026 upon the assessed value of all taxable property within the district.

Subject to the General Government Limitation	Excluded from the Limitation
\$6,0507/\$1,000	0

GENERAL FUND



WATER BOND DEBT SERVICE FUND	0	\$	52,350
SEWER BOND DEBT SERVICE FUND	О	\$	78,525
DELINQUENT SEWER ASSESSMENT	O	\$	412.70
Passed and adopted by the Council of the City of	Brownsville this 30 <sup>th</sup>	day c	of June 2025.
	Approved:		
Attest:			
	Adam Craven Mayor		
S. Scott McDowell Budget Officer/City Administrator	1114 01		



## A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS WITHIN CERTAIN FUNDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET

WHEREAS, Council would like to maintain accurate expenditures for each and every fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS**, several line items are overspent annually depending on factors outside the control of Council and Staff; and

**WHEREAS**, moving funds from the contingency line items to the over spent line items will give a more accurate reflection of expenditures for each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, funds were moved in accordance with Oregon Local Budget Law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, that that the following funds be transferred in the following accounts:

Transfer From:	Transfer To:		
General Fund – Administration			
100.010.950.000.00.00 Contingency	100.010.627.000.00.00 Legal		\$6,000
		Total	\$6,000
General Fund - Parks, Rec, & C	<u>emetery</u>		
100.020.950.000.00.00 Contingency	100.020.600.000.00.00 Park Deposit Refunds	_	\$3,000
		Total	\$3,000
General Fund - Operations			
100.060.950.000.00.00 Contingency	100.060.649.000.00.00 Service/Maintenance Contr	acts	\$4,000
		Total	\$4,000
Water - Administration			
200.010.950.000.00.00 Contingency	200.010.667.000.00.00 Postage		\$2,000
		Total	\$2,000
Water - Operations			
200.060.950.000.00.00 Contingency	200.060.720.000.00.00 Buildings & Grounds		\$2,000
		Total	\$2,000
Sewer – Administration			
210.010.950.000.00.00 Contingency	210.010.667.000.00.00 Postage		\$1,000
		Total	\$1,000
Sewer – Operations			
210.060.950.000.00.00 Contingency	210.060.656.000.00.00 Chlorine		\$10,000
	210.060.730.000.00.00 Equipment & Clothing		\$1,000
		Total	\$11,000
Community Projects			
100.010.950.000.00.00 GF Contingency	916.000.679.000.00.00 I.G. Requests & Contribution	ns	\$2,250
		Total	\$2,250

R 2025.12 Page | 1 of 2

Total Amount of Transfers

\$31,250

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Brownsville this 30th day of June 2025.

	APPROVED:
ATTEST:	
	Adam R. Craven, Mayor
S. Scott McDowell, City Administrator	

**R 2025.12** Page | 2 of 2

## <u>City of Brownsville</u> 2025 Sewer Delinquent Accounts

Tax Account #	Name & Address	Amount
895718	Johannes & Melissa Farr 13462 456th Place SE	412.70
	North Bend, OR 98045	

**TOTAL** \$ 412.70

#### admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: library@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 11, 2025 4:28 PM

**Subject:** FW: [PL-Directors] LSTA Award Letter has arrived

**Attachments:** OR LSTA 2025 full award.pdf

FYI, Sherri

**From:** PL-Directors <pl-directors-bounces@omls.oregon.gov> **On Behalf Of** CORNELISEN Wendy \* SLO via PL-Directors **Subject:** [PL-Directors] LSTA Award Letter has arrived

As expected, the full LSTA 2025 award letter has arrived! Please see attached for confirmation of the FY26 amount: **\$2,593,238.** 

In a previous message, I shared our contingency plan if all we received was a half award of \$1.3 million. Here's the

plan now that we have the full LSTA 2025 award legally obligated:

- The 12 State Library staff positions paid with LSTA funds will be funded through June 2026.
- Statewide services provided by the State Library will continue through June 2026: Answerland, Northwest Digital Heritage, Oregon Library Staff Academy (Niche Academy), Oregon School Library Information System (OSLIS), and statewide iREAD summer reading access.
- The annual subscription to Gale databases will continue through June 2026. The academic library database subsidies will be distributed in late summer/early fall 2025.
- We will issue award letters to statewide LSTA grant projects, going through June 2026: the Sage Library System courier; Oregon Battle of the Books; Oregon Digital Library Consortium; OLA Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Antiracism Committee (EDIAC) podcast; professional development scholarships from EDIAC; REFORMA Oregon projects; OSLIS special projects; Tribal newspaper and Chemawa document digitization by the University of Oregon; and Northwest Archivists Native American Collections Roundtable conference scholarships.
- Regular continuing education subscriptions and programs such as PCI Webinars, Lyrasis, *Tech-Talk*, and Infopeople will be funded.
- We will have further funds set aside as contingency, which may be used for programs and grants depending on how the future LSTA funding picture develops. These funds may end up covering those 12 State Library staff positions from July 1, 2026-Sept 30, 2026.

Even with our full 2025 LSTA award, we will not issue competitive grant awards in the coming 2025-26 fiscal year. We want to reserve these funds due to funding concerns for FY2027 and beyond.

These actions depend on our continuing ability to draw down funds from IMLS. As I mentioned on May 31, we have already drawn down some LSTA 2025 funds, which is a good sign.

#### What about July 2026?

LSTA 2026 funding - the money we'd spend in FY27, from July 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027- is still uncertain. The federal budget bill recently passed by the House does not include *any funds* for LSTA, with only \$6 million in "shutdown" money for IMLS. This fall, Congress will likely debate the federal Museum and Library Services Act reauthorization, which created IMLS and the LSTA program. We'll continue to work with our partners to highlight the ways that IMLS benefits Oregonians, and the entire nation.

Thank you for your support and partnership in this important work as we continue to navigate these hard times.

Take care,

Wendy

#### Wendy Cornelisen (she, her, hers)

State Librarian
State Library of Oregon

wendy.cornelisen@slo.oregon.gov

Office: 503-378-4367| Mobile 971-375-3992

www.oregon.gov/library





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Sharon Banks** 

PO Box 278
Brownsville, OR 97327
(458) 255-0511
thebrownsvilletimes@gmail.com

www.brownsvilletimes.org

#### **Brownsville Rallies to Revive Historic Newspaper**

Nearly 40 writers, countless volunteers, and hundreds of donors and subscribers unite to restore *The Brownsville Times* — one of Oregon's longest-running community publications

**BROWNSVILLE, OR** — May 29, 2025 —In an inspiring display of civic pride and literary passion, the people of Brownsville have banded together to rescue one of their town's most cherished institutions—their historic newspaper.

Faced with the looming threat of permanent closure due to financial strain and dwindling resources, the 137-year-old local publication seemed destined to print its final edition last December. But in a remarkable turn of events, residents from every corner of the community came forward—not only to save the newspaper, but to breathe vibrant new life into it.

At the heart of this revival is a surprising force: nearly 40 local writers and published authors, many with national accolades, who have volunteered their time and talent to report on everything from city council meetings to high school sports and small-town profiles. With pens in hand and a deep affection for their community, they've taken on the editorial reins with the spirit of true hometown journalism.

"It's not just ink on paper," said writer and longtime resident Sharon Banks, a retired accountant and novelist. "This newspaper is our memory, our voice, and our legacy."

The community's efforts didn't stop at the keyboard. In just a few weeks, donations poured in—ranging from small checks tucked into handwritten letters to significant contributions from local businesses and philanthropists. The newspaper's new home at 343 N. Main Street, soon to be buzzing with volunteers manning the news desk and answering emails and phone calls.

Advertising and subscriptions, once a source of decline, have turned into a point of pride. Local volunteers have hit the pavement, signing up new readers and reconnecting with businesses to fill pages with ads promoting everything from our local pharmacy, dental services, construction services, to church outreach efforts and the local Airbnbs.

"We're not just saving a newspaper," said Tika Harrison, a young parent and volunteer ad rep. "We're restoring a voice that has echoed through generations — a voice that knows our streets, our struggles, and our triumphs. This paper is more than print and pages; it's a living piece of our town's soul, and bringing it back means our children will grow up in a place that still knows how to honor its past while shaping its future."

The paper's revival is also attracting attention beyond Brownsville, with regional media and historians taking note of the town's commitment to local journalism at a time when many small papers are folding across the country.

From features on pioneer heritage to upcoming events at the recreation center gym, the newly revitalized Brownsville newspaper is once again hitting mailboxes and newsstands—stronger, more diverse, and more community-driven than ever.

The first issue under the new stewardship will hit the press on June 5, featuring the banner headline: "Together, We Write the Next Chapter."

And in Brownsville, that chapter is one the whole town is writing—together.

To subscribe, volunteer, or donate, visit brownsvilletimes.org.

IMAGE: <a href="https://brownsvilletimes.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Brownsville-Times-Vol-137-No1-Cover-scaled.jpg">https://brownsvilletimes.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/The-Brownsville-Times-Vol-137-No1-Cover-scaled.jpg</a>

Caption: Cover of The Brownsville Times Volume 137, Number 1

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**The Brownsville Times** is a small, independent, nonprofit weekly newspaper sharing real local stories that reflect, inform, and uplift our community.



## Linn County wrapping up home fire hardening program

#### **By Alex Paul**

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Linn County will wrap up its fire hardening grant program for homes affected by the 2020 wildfires in the Santiam Canyon at the end of June, Planning & Building Director Steve Wills told Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker Tuesday morning.

The program started in 2021 and has been funded by a grant from the State of Oregon, Wills said after the meeting.

Fire hardening is building with materials that make a structure more resistant to damage from a wildfire, according to Oregon's Building Codes Division.

Wills said homeowners can apply for financial subsidies if they use fire resistant materials when rebuilding their home or building a new home.

"For example, someone can qualify for a grant if they build a concrete deck instead of a cedar deck," Wills said. "If they install fire-resistant windows, they can qualify."

Non-combustible decks, balconies or porches could qualify for a \$550 subsidy. A homeowner could qualify for a \$2,200 subsidy by using fire-resistant roofing, or \$550 by using fire-resistant windows.

Wills said that there have been 43 grants totaling \$166,000 to Linn County residents.

He said a check for \$3,950 was sent in May and June is the last month for the program.

Learn more by calling Linn County Planning & Building at 541-967-3816.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Discussed the need for extensive public communication about traffic flow during the July 17-19 Linn County Fair. Goldfish Farm Road south of the Fair & Expo Center is closed due to a bridge replacement project. Roadmaster Wayne Mink said there is signage in place and his staff will add electronic message boards and other traffic control devices as needed.
- Approved three-year contracts between the Linn County Sheriff's Office and the following communities: Brownsville, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lyons, Mill City, Millersburg and Scio.



- Were informed that 45 land use permits were issued in May. There were six permits for single family dwellings and three for manufactured dwellings. There were 296 total permits issued, of which 58 required plan reviews.
- Approved a two-year agreement between the Linn County Juvenile Detention and Marion County. Linn County will provide juvenile detention beds as needed for \$175 per day. Also, Benton County has contracted for four beds at a daily rate of \$329.81, or \$481,524 per year. Benton County will be billed \$120,381 quarterly.
- Approved a contract for the 2025-2026 fiscal year with Willamette Valley Rehabilitation Center for \$130,968 to provide janitorial services for several county buildings.
- Announced an Elected Officials meeting will be held at noon on Wednesday, June 11, at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.
- Approved an update to the Personnel Policy that addresses a number of items including leave without pay, longevity pay and updates to definitions within the policy.

Announced that no board meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 1.

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.



## Linn County Fair announces 2025 concert lineup

Uncle Kracker, Phil Vassar, and Hunter Hayes to headline grandstand stage July 17–19

#### **By Alex Paul**

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY, OR— Get ready for three unforgettable nights of live music and summer fun!

The Linn County Fair in Albany is thrilled to announce its 2025 concert lineup, bringing top-tier national talent to the Grandstand Stage from July 17–19, 2025. This year's headliners include genre-crossing rocker Uncle Kracker, country hitmaker Phil Vassar, and Grammy-nominated superstar Hunter Hayes.

Whether you're a fan of laid-back anthems, piano-driven country, or modern pop-country flair, there's something for everyone at this year's fair!

#### Thursday, July 17 - Uncle Kracker

Kicking off the concert series is Uncle Kracker, known for smash hits like "Follow Me," "Smile," and "Drift Away." With a style that blends country, rock, and pop, his feel-good sound has made him a favorite for summer music lovers everywhere.

Whether you're reminiscing about the early 2000s or discovering his music for the first time, Uncle Kracker brings a party to every stage.

#### Friday, July 18 – Phil Vassar

Singer-songwriter Phil Vassar brings his high-energy show and piano-powered country tunes to the Main Stage on Friday night. With a catalog that includes fan favorites like "Just Another Day in Paradise," "American Child," and "Carlene," Vassar is known for heartfelt lyrics, dynamic performances, and a deep connection with his audience.

#### Saturday, July 19 – Hunter Hayes

Closing out the concert series is the incredibly talented Hunter Hayes.

Known for his Grammy-nominated hit "Wanted," along with "I Want Crazy" and "Invisible," Hayes is a multi-talented instrumentalist who puts everything into his live performances. Expect a dynamic, emotional, and high-energy show to wrap up the weekend in style.



Reserved seating tickets starting at \$20 are on sale at <a href="www.linncountyfair.com">www.linncountyfair.com</a>.

The Linn County Fair & Expo Center is at 3700 Knox Butte Road East, Albany, Oregon.

From thrilling rides and local food vendors to livestock shows and family-friendly entertainment, the Linn County Fair is the place to be this summer. Don't miss three nights of epic music under the Oregon sky!

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.



#### Linn County to see reduced Marine Board funding

#### **By Alex Paul**

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — The Linn County Sheriff's Office will lose about \$77,000 in Oregon Marine Board funding over the 2025-2027 biennium, Sheriff Michelle Duncan told Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker Tuesday morning.

Duncan was responding to a question posed by Chairman Nyquist.

Nyquist said he learned that the state Marine Board was going to receive less federal funding, due in part to Oregon being a sanctuary state and not assisting federal immigration officials.

Duncan said she plans to staff the county's marine patrol as usual for this summer, but there may need to be staff cuts next summer.

Commissioner Nyquist asked staff to research whether the county's Transient Lodging Tax might be used to help "backfill the Marine Board funding".

Nyquist said tourism continues to grow as a segment of the local economy and our "local bodies of water must be safe."

He added that there are accidents on local waterways every year.

"Reducing service is not an option," Nyquist noted.

Sheriff Duncan said her office remains committed to water safety.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Learned that the Linn County Emergency Operations Plan has been updated. It was last updated in 2022. Linn County Emergency Manager Ric Lentz said that project was a collaborative effort that involved "multiple county departments and partner agencies." He added that a "significant portion of the update focused on incorporating lessons learned from the 2023 and 2024 wildfire seasons, as well as our 2024 winter storm." Keeping the Emergency Operations Plan updated helps the county maintain compliance with FEMA and eligible for future grant opportunities.
- Approved a three-year contract with Avaya phone system maintenance. The contract is for \$59,582.94; \$61,668.35 and \$63,826.74 annually.



- Accepted an easement along Lulay Road for the Lulay Road Cross Culvert Replacement Project. Cost was \$300 and the grantor is Gary D. Teigan as Trustee of the Melvin and Evelyn Revocable Living Trust.
- Approved a contract with the Jackson Street Shelter to provide a bed used by the Linn County Mental Health Response and Stabilization Service youth clients. Daily rate will be \$148.53 and includes meals, laundry and items for basic needs.
- Were informed by Juvenile Director Torri Lynn that 29 young people from Linn County were held for 308 days in May; three youth from Benton County were held for six days; two youth from Lincoln County were held for three days. There were 41 referrals to the Probation Department and there are 156 young people in the Probation Unit. The county's Intervention Specialist is serving 175 youth. 165 have not had involvement with law enforcement. The victim advocate made 120 contacts in May.
- Approved a contract to provide Lincoln County with access to beds at the Linn Benton Juvenile Detention Center at a rate of \$175 per day, per bed.
- Wrote off the following as uncollectable accounts that are more than 180 days old: Mental Health Services, \$11,667.93; Alcohol & Drug Treatment Program, \$12,743.98; Public Health, \$1,591.36.
- Announced the Board will meet at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 26, for possible adoption of the 2025-2026 budget. Possible adoption of the 4-H and Extension Service District budget will follow.
- Announced the Board of Commissioners will not meet on Tuesday, July 1.

Congratulated and thanked retiring Senior Administrative Assistant Marsha Meyer, who will retire Friday after 27 years serving Linn County in the Commissioners' Office. A party in her honor will be held Friday afternoon in the Board Room.

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.

From: Oregon Department of Transportation <odot@service.govdelivery.com>

**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 11:05 AM admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Subject:** Another Oregon DMV scam is going around, don't click any links!

Having trouble viewing this email? View it as a Web page.



## **Driver and Motor Vehicle Services**

# If you receive a text message or email from Oregon DMV telling you to "Pay Now," don't click any links – it's a scam

June 9, 2025

News media questions: Chris Crabb, chris.c.crabb@odot.oregon.gov, 971-304-9705

Customer questions: 503-945-5000, oregondmv.com

SALEM – If you receive a text message or email from Oregon DMV requesting payment or personal identifying information, do not respond or click any links. The best course of

"These messages are not from Oregon DMV," said Oregon DMV Public Information Officer Chris Crabb. "These are fake messages designed to get you to click on a link and provide personal information or send money."

In the latest scam, bad actors are claiming you have an outstanding traffic ticket or other violation. The text cites a phony Oregon State Administrative Code and claims if you do not pay by a certain date, you will face vehicle registration suspension, suspended driving privileges, service fees and damage to your credit score. The scam says to pay immediately before enforcement to avoid license suspension and further legal disputes.

"Oregon DMV will never ask you for personal information or payment through an unsolicited text, email or phone call," said Crabb. "DMV transactions should only be completed online at dmv2u.oregon.gov or in person at a DMV office."

Oregon DMV offers secure online services and sends text or email messages in some instances, but only for transactions that you start, and the messages never include links to confirm personal information or payment. We would only ask for proof of identity or payment through DMV2U or by requesting copies of your identity documents in person at a DMV office.

Oregon Vehicle Administration(DMV) Final Notice: Enforcement Penalties Begin on June 10.

Our records show that as of today, you still have an outstanding traffic ticket. In accordance with Oregon State Administrative Code 15C-16.003, if you do not complete payment by June 9, 2025, we will take the following actions:

- Report to the DMV violation database
- Suspend your vehicle registration starting June 10
- Suspend driving privileges for 30 days
- Transfer to a toll booth and charge a 35% service fee
- You may be prosecuted and your credit score will be affected Pay Now:

https://oregon.gov-odotb.icu/us

Please pay immediately before enforcement to avoid license suspension and further legal disputes.

(Reply Y and re-open this message to click the link, or copy it to your browser.)

#### How to protect yourself

- Don't click links. If you receive a text about unpaid tolls, do not click on any links or provide any information.
- **Be cautious of suspicious texts.** Be wary of any text message that demands immediate action or asks for personal information or payment.
- Delete the text and block the number to prevent further potential harm.
- Report scams and suspicious communications to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission. It will help to include the phone number from which the text originated, and any website listed within the text.

#### If you click a link or provide your information

- Secure your personal information and financial accounts.
- Dispute any unfamiliar charges.

For more information about fraud prevention, visit oregondmv.com.

###



Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your Subscriber Preferences Page. You will need to use your email

#### admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Department of Transportation <odot@service.govdelivery.com>

**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 9:02 AM admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Subject:** ODOT removed 122 unsafe truck drivers from Oregon roads

Having trouble viewing this email? View it as a Web page.



## **Commerce and Compliance Division**



# ODOT removed 122 unsafe truck drivers from Oregon roads at recent illegal bypass enforcement events

June 9, 2025

News media contact: Chris Crabb, chris.c.crabb@odot.oregon.gov, 971-304-9705

SALEM -- The Oregon Department of Transportation Commerce and Compliance Division, with support from Oregon State Police, ticketed 122 truckers who illegally bypassed an open weigh station in late April and early May.

"We take weigh station bypass very seriously and are taking enforcement action against it," said ODOT Commerce and Compliance Interim Division Administrator Carla Phelps. "The goal of this operation was to remove fatigued and unqualified drivers from Oregon roads to prevent fatal commercial truck collisions with the traveling public."

Two commercial vehicle safety and enforcement events took place along I-84 at Cascade Locks, Umatilla, and Farewell Bend Ports of Entry and La Grande and Emigrant Hill Weigh Stations. More than 490 commercial truck drivers who bypassed an open weigh station were stopped and escorted back by Oregon State Police. They were then inspected for compliance with licensing and hours-of-service regulations.

Of those drivers stopped, 25% were placed out-of-service, meaning they were temporarily prohibited from driving a commercial vehicle due to a violation of safety or regulatory rules. Their vehicles were also inspected for violations of state and federal regulations, and the drivers were required to correct any violations before proceeding.

Inspectors discovered false logs and multiple electronic logging devices that had been tampered with and were producing fictional logs. Commercial truck drivers use logs to record their daily activities, specifically their time spent driving, on duty, off duty and in sleeper cabs. Driver logs are crucial for ensuring compliance with federal hours-of-service regulations, which limit how long drivers can work without taking breaks.

ODOT's Commerce and Compliance Division ensures the safety and efficiency of Oregon's highway system by regulating and enforcing laws related to commercial trucking. Learn more at oregon.gov/odot.

###

Photos available on Flickr.

#### admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Liquor & Cannabis Commission <olcc@public.govdelivery.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 5, 2025 11:48 AM admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Subject:** Commissioners approve new Bottle Bill rules



### Commissioners approve new Bottle Bill rules

#### Bottle Redemption limited 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

#### **Alternative Redemption Centers now allowed**

**PORTLAND, OR.** – Today, at a special meeting of the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) Commissioners issued new temporary rules updating Oregon's Bottle Bill effective June, 5 through December 2, 2025. The new rules were authorized by <u>Senate Bill 992</u>, which the Legislature recently passed and which Governor Kotek signed into law on Tuesday, June 3.

The rule updates include:

- Enabling stores to limit the hours they must provide redemption services;
- Altering the requirements for stores participating in redemption centers; and
- Enabling the opening of alternative access redemption centers (AARC).

During the Commission meeting, Commissioners heard a presentation from both staff and the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) on the updates. Commission Chair Doherty commented that, "For over 50 years, Oregon's Bottle Bill has helped keep our state green and litter-free. The OLCC is proud of the role we play in making the Bottle Bill work. With today's significant changes, we will ensure that our pioneering system will continue to serve communities across our state for years to come."

The legislation and rule changes also allow stores to limit the hours they accept returns from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. Stores will no longer be required to provide redemption services during all the hours they are open. Further, dealer redemption centers in the City of Portland will only be required to accept OBRC "green bag" program redemptions.

One of the largest changes is the creation of Alternative Access Redemption Centers, which enable non-profits to open redemption centers. To that end, SB 992 also includes some changes to convenience zones that will be a part of the approval process to ensure that redemption centers serve the stores and the community.

The OLCC is charged with ensuring that Oregonians have access to obtaining their deposits on redeemable beverage containers. Commission staff continue to work with industry partners, licensees and Oregonians to improve Oregon's iconic Bottle Bill which produces best-in-class recycling outcomes and yielded an 87.3% redemption rate in 2023 – the highest in the nation.

This summer, commission staff will utilize the rulemaking process to get feedback from industry and the public about these temporary rules. The temporary rules will be made permanent later this year as they expire December 2, 2025.

In addition to implementing the rule changes authorized by Senate Bill 992, the Commission also approved canned wine, cider over 8.5% ABV, sake and mead for redemption. Starting July 1, cans of these beverages will carry a redemption value and will be accepted at all redemption centers. Wineries that sell canned wine will only be required to accept the containers they sell.

More information about these and other changes can be found at: https://www.oregon.gov/olcc/Pages/rulemaking.aspx.

###

News media needing additional information, contact:

John Brady 971-235-7561 john.brady@olcc.oregon.gov

#### admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon DEQ News <ordeq@public.govdelivery.com>

**Sent:** Monday, June 23, 2025 9:55 AM admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Subject:** DEQ issues nine penalties in May for environmental violations



#### **NEWS RELEASE**

## DEQ issues nine penalties in May for environmental violations

Date: Monday, June 23, 2025

Statewide, Ore.— The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality issued nine penalties totaling \$808,344 in May for various environmental violations. A detailed list of violations and resulting penalties is at <a href="https://ordeq.org/enforcement">https://ordeq.org/enforcement</a>.

Fines ranged from \$2,700 to \$648,500. Alleged violations included an asphalt company exceeding permit emission limits, the City of Reedsport discharging raw sewage to waters of the state, and a drug take-back program responsible for collecting and disposing of unused, unwanted and expired medication and sharps violating various provisions of the Oregon drug take-back law.

DEQ issued civil penalties to the following organizations:

- City of Pendleton, Pendleton, \$21,900, water quality
- City of Reedsport, Reedsport, \$2,700, water quality
- Drug Takeback Solutions Foundation, Salem, \$648,500, materials management
- Gary Fisk and Charles Gibson, Cottage Grove, \$10,682, underground storage tank
- Humbert Asphalt, Inc., Milton-Freewater, \$7,600, air quality
- Jopp Energy Co, Portland, \$65,931, stormwater and air quality
- Oregon Dept. of Transportation, Oregon City and West Linn, \$13,150, stormwater
- T&K Sester Family, LLC, Gresham, \$31,431, water quality
- Willamette Leadership Academy, Eugene, \$6,450, water quality

Recipients of DEQ civil penalties must either pay the fines to the state treasury or file an appeal within 20 days of receiving notice of the penalty. They may be able to offset a portion of a penalty by funding a supplemental environmental project that improves Oregon's environment. Learn more about these projects at <a href="https://ordeq.org/sep">https://ordeq.org/sep</a>.

Penalties may also include orders requiring specific tasks to prevent ongoing violations or additional environmental harm.

DEQ works with thousands of organizations and individuals to help them comply with laws that protect Oregon's air, land and water. DEQ uses education, technical assistance, warnings and penalties to change behavior and deter future violations.

**Media contact:** Antony Sparrow, public affairs specialist, 503-887-9113, antony.sparrow@deq.oregon.gov

#### admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Secretary of State <Oregon.SOS@public.govdelivery.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 17, 2025 3:36 PM admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

**Subject:** Automatic Recounts Triggered in More Than 25 Elections Across Oregon

#### **PRESS RELEASE**



Date: June 17, 2025

Contact: Tess Seger | tess.seger@sos.oregon.gov

## **Automatic Recounts Triggered in More Than 25 Elections Across Oregon**

Secretary of State Tobias Read Reminds Oregonians Their Votes Matter

SALEM, OR — Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read is reminding Oregonians that their votes can decide elections. As of June 17, 2025, the Secretary of State's office has received notification that more than 25 races from the May 20th special district election are close enough to trigger an automatic hand recount.

"I hear from a lot of people that they think their vote doesn't matter, and here we have the undeniable proof that it does. These elections will have a major impact on Oregonians lives, from deciding how we manage our water to how we run schools and fight wildfires – and they'll be decided by just a few votes," said **Secretary Read**.

"Thank you to our local elections officials and their teams who are working so hard to make sure every vote is counted accurately."

To find out more about recounts in your county, contact your local elections offices.

Automatic vote recounts in the state of Oregon are required for the nomination or election of a person or to decide the outcome of a ballot measure when:

1. There is a tie between candidates.

2. The vote margin is very close. Specifically, when the difference between the apparent winning candidate and the next is not more than 1/5th of one percent (i.e. 0.2%) or *less*, of the total votes for both of the candidates.

The same margin rule (0.2% or less) also applies to ballot measures, such as initiatives or referendums, unless a ballot measure requires 50% voter turnout to be passed and turnout does not meet that threshold. For example: If an initiative requires 50% voter turnout and only 48% of registered voters voted on it, there will not be an automatic recount, even if there is a small margin (such as 0.1%).

All recounts in the state of Oregon must be done by a counting board by hand. The counting board consists of a minimum of two county electors, and the electors must be registered with different political parties.

#### The counting board:

- 1. Determines the voter's intent on each ballot.
- 2. Separates ballots into different stacks, based on the option selected on each ballot.
- 3. Counts the number of ballots in each stack.

Both members of the counting board must count each stack individually, and both must agree on the number in each stack.

Official observers are permitted to be present to observe the preliminary preparation and to observe the recount process but must not impede or interfere with the recount preparation or procedure. Official observers can include:

- Any and all affected candidates.
- Any elector authorized in writing by an affected candidate.
- An elector authorized in writing by each major or minor party.
- An authorized observer designated by an official measure organization.

"Oregon elections officials are committed to running honest, fair, and accurate elections. Controls like automatic recounts, regular audits, and the near-constant testing of elections equipment help us show the public that their votes count," added **Secretary Read**.

To date, the following counties have notified the Secretary of State's office about recounts:

**Baker County** will conduct an automatic recount for the West Eagle Valley Water Control District, At Large position on June 17, 2025.

In **Clatsop County**, two recounts will be conducted on June 23, 2025 for the Seaside Rural Fire Protection district, Director, Position 2 and Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District, Commissioner, Position 2.

Coos County started an automatic recount for two races on June 16, 2025:

- Bunker Hill Rural Fire Protection District, Position 3
- Shelley Rd-Crest Acres Water District, Position 3

In **Crook County**, the automatic recount for the Juniper Canyon Water Control District, Position 4 started on June 16, 2025.

**Deschutes County** plans to complete an automatic recount for Laidlaw Water District, Director, Position 3 by June 20, 2025.

In **Grant County**, there is an automatic recount on June 18, 2025 for the following districts:

- Grant County Transportation District
- John Day Rural Fire District
- Monument Cemetery District

Long Creek School District, Position 5

In **Gilliam County**, automatic recounts were triggered in Rock Creek Water Control District Director Zone 2 and Rock Creek Water Control District Zone 3. That recount was already held and completed on June 11, 2025.

**Klamath County** plans to complete a recount for two director positions in the Modoc Point Sanitary District by June 18, 2025.

**Lake County** started recounts on June 11, 2025 for Christmas Valley Rural Fire Protection District, Director, Position 3 and Christmas Valley Park and Recreation District, Director, Position 5

In Lane County, four recounts will begin on June 18, 2025 in the following districts:

- Dexter Sanitary District, Director, Position 3
- Dexter Sanitary District, Director, Position 5
- River Road Water Control, Directors, Positions 1 5
- South Lane School District, Director, Position 7

Linn County started recounts for the following districts on June 16, 2025:

- Denver-Conner Water Control District Position 6
- Little Muddy Creek Water Control District Position 3
- Little Muddy Creek Water Control District Position 5

In **Tillamook County**, a recount for Ballot Measure 29 – 183 was started on June 11, 2025 and recounts for the following districts began the next day on June 12, 2025:

- Nedonna Rural Fire Protection District Director, Position 4
- Beaver Water District Commissioner, Position 4
- Twin Rocks Water District Commissioner, Position 4
- Cloverdale Sanitary District Director, Position 3

All recounts in Tillamook County are now complete.

**Umatilla County** will be conducting a recount on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 for two tied write-in races:

- McKay Dam Fire, Position 5
- Milton-Freewater Valley Ambulance District, Position 5

**Wasco County** started a recount for the Tygh Valley Rural Fire Protection District, Position 1 on June 16, 2025.

#### Oregon Counties Pause Litigation Over National Flood Insurance Regulations

Published 1:59 pm Wednesday, May 28, 2025 By Mateusz Perkowski

Several local governments in Oregon are pausing their lawsuit against new national flood insurance restrictions while negotiating with federal officials to end the dispute. Earlier this year, the Oregonians for Floodplain Protection nonprofit filed a complaint against the Federal Emergency Management Agency, alleging its new rules undermine Oregon's farmland protections. The organization represents Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook counties, as well as other communities and individuals who believe new flood insurance regulations will alter development patterns contrary to the statewide land use planning system.

By effectively prohibiting construction around streams, the new FEMA rules will force "urban development to expand into areas that have been recognized and preserved as a combination of rural and resource lands," which are needed to support farming and forestry, the lawsuit said. However, it now appears the organization expects a legal battle may not be necessary to remedy its concerns. In a recent joint court filing, representatives of FEMA and other federal agencies joined the plaintiff in asking a judge to suspend the court proceedings. Staying the lawsuit will allow "the parties to discuss options which may resolve the matter without further litigation," the document said. If any additional proceedings are needed, pausing the lawsuit will still "promote the efficient and orderly disposition" of the case by ensuring the federal government's legal arguments reflect the views of the current presidential administration, the document said.

However, several environmental groups that have intervened in the case — Northwest Environmental Defense Center, Center for Biological Diversity, Willamette Riverkeeper and Conservation Angler — oppose suspending the litigation. The organizations object to the pause because resolving the legal issues involved "facilitates FEMA's ability to comply with the ESA," referring to the Endangered Species Act, according to the document.

The Endangered Species Act is relevant because it serves as the basis for the federal government's new flood insurance regulations, but the Trump administration is changing its approach to enforcing that law. To resolve another dispute with environmental groups 15 years ago, the federal government agreed to examine the national flood insurance program's effect on salmon, steelhead and killer whales, which are protected under ESA. As a result of that "biological opinion," the federal government recommended shielding floodplains from development, eventually leading to the new flood insurance program regulations. Those rules required communities that participate in the national flood insurance program to restrict construction in "riparian buffer zones" or in other cases, to take steps to ensure floodplains experience "no net loss."

Opponents of the new regulations, such as the local governments who formed Oregonians for Floodplain Protection, claim that such restrictions will necessarily reduce the amount of buildable

#### The Capital Press

Limitations on development within floodplains may redirect development to other areas, namely on lands outside of the mapped floodplain," the complaint said. Since coming into office, though, the Trump administration has announced it's altering its enforcement of the ESA to reduce the statute's regulatory burden, which environmentalists fear will dismantle habitat safeguards for species. It's not yet clear what that means for the national flood insurance program, though the settlement negotiations raise the possibility that the federal government may take a more flexible approach to floodplain regulations. For example, in another lawsuit involving ESA, the Trump administration recently said it agrees with Klamath farmers that the federal government lacks authority to curtail irrigation in a way that would deprive growers of water under contracts that predate the law. In that case, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and Klamath irrigators recently filed documents stating "there is no longer a concrete dispute" between them, which they say will likely moot a legal dispute currently being reviewed by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Read more at: https://capitalpress.com/2025/05/28/oregon-counties-pause-litigation-over-national-flood-insurance-regulations/?utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=govdelivery



#### Goals 2025-2026

#### 1. Focus on the Fundamentals.

- ★ Carefully manage Brownsville's treasury.
- ★ Foster productive relationships both internally & externally.
- **★** Administer civic partnership agreements focusing on deliverables.
- ★ Focus on proactively dealing with State preemptions, unfunded mandates, and laws that force unwanted expenditures and requirements on citizens.

#### 2. Organizational Development.

- ★ Modify Council Rules and meeting procedures.
- ★ Create a communications plan.
- ★ Implement social media strategies.
- ★ Build positive & effective Council and Staff relations.
- ★ Recognize City volunteers and continue developing elected and non-elected officials.
- ★ Recognize practical impacts of external relationships that cause harm to City operations.

#### 3. Capital Improvements Plan.

- $\star$  Continue planning for new sewer lagoon and treatment improvements.
- $\star$  Plan for construction of a new playground.
- ★ Paint City Hall.
- ★ Plan for the Water Treatment Plant project that includes a new reservoir and the replacement of critical distribution lines.
- ★ Share with citizens the challenges related to projects such as Kirk Avenue, sidewalks, and riverbank restoration.

#### 4. Community Development Plan.

- $\star$  Refine the Brownsville Municipal Code to reflect actual practice where needed.
- ★ Consider adopting rules for storage containers, election signs, and property identification.
- ★ Develop a plan to preserve & further the historic aesthetic of Brownsville.
- ★ Continue local & regional emergency preparedness efforts.
- ★ Support youth activities in partnership with the Central Linn Recreation Association.



#### 5. Economic Development Plan.

- **★** *Participate in regional efforts and opportunities with partner cities.*
- ★ Support and implement the Rural Economic Alliance's (REAL) 5-year strategic plan.
- ★ Complete and implement the Land Use inventory project.

#### 6. Water Rights.

- ★ Explore possible additional water source options.
- ★ Continually work on monitoring and perfecting City water rights.
- ★ Implement the State required Water Management & Conservation Plan.

#### 7. Advocacy Plan.

- ★ Develop the Legislative Advocacy Policy Committee (LAPC) to effectively participate in the State legislative process and in the Federal legislative process when appropriate.
- ★ Focus on home rule with other stakeholders, partnerships, and other regional efforts to strengthen City policy positions and authority.
- ★ Monitor new laws, tort limits, system development charges, and recreational immunity protections for taxpayers, ratepayers, and to protect local amenities.
- $\star$  Market and promote the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC).

#### **Council Vision Statement**

The Brownsville City Council works collaboratively and effectively with each other, staff, and community partners to preserve the historic character and economic health of our town and to create a high quality of life for our citizens.

#### A Vision for Brownsville

For a tiny rural Oregon community, Brownsville has a huge presence. It is well known throughout the state for its friendly welcome and for being a safe, clean, and attractive town. It is clear that residents value its historic character and make special efforts to preserve and enhance it. Talk to business owners in the thriving north and south business areas and you will find that it is the creative working relationships between city government and private, county, state, and federal partners that sustain our economic health and well-being. Residents participate in Brownsville's inclusive process of growing and enhancing our high quality of life. Brownsville citizens care about healthy city finances, they expect infrastructure that delivers, and they elect a City Council that works for the benefit of the community. Public spaces are a vital part of Brownsville's sense of place; citizens' and city government's attention to the appearance and cleanliness of parks, streets, and neighborhoods adds to the town's livability.

#### Tag line

Brownsville: Where People Care, Business Thrives, and History Lives

#### Who we are?

Brownsville is a City that is proud of its past while constantly improving toward the future for the benefit of our citizens. We are a group of citizens that honor each other by carefully balancing the social contract (Brownsville Municipal Code) to keep peace and order. The Brownsville Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan help define the role of the City. Organizational transparency is a focus of Council. Council is working closely with Staff, volunteers, civic organizations, appointed officials and the citizenry to execute identified goals and carry out the responsibilities of the City.

Brownsville has a tremendous sense of place and synergy between City Hall and our residents. Active citizens are the true strength of Brownsville as evidenced by the volunteers who give freely of themselves to provide many municipal functions and civic services. Many civic organizations implement their missions actively in our community which provides a quality of life and vibrancy that is uncommon. Community events are planned and designed to invite people into town to share what Brownsville has to offer.

Council recognizes that many civic organizations and the City government are working diligently on implementing organizational development concepts in order to more efficiently provide services. Council recognizes that we are in a transition period between an authoritative model and are collectively moving toward a new, participatory approach within the organization and throughout the community.

#### What do we want for Brownsville?

Brownsville should honor the past, maintain a healthy present and strive to assure a dynamic future by focusing on fundamental municipal services such as:

- 1. Treasury Health
- 2. Water
- 3. Sewer
- 4. Capital Improvements
- 5. Parks
- 6. Streets

- 7. Contract Administration
- 8. Personnel
- 9. Police Protection
- 10. Municipal Court
- 11. Library Services
- 12. Planning & Zoning

#### **Organizational Development**

- 1. Elected & Appointed Officials. People who understand their role and responsibilities for the City as policy & decision makers. People who have a tremendous amount of pride and caring about the future of Brownsville. People who understand the financial nuances of local government in Oregon. People who understand and respect the significant contributions of Staff. People who are focused on the greater good they can collectively make in the community. People who understand the mission of the City and who can explain City policy and issues with the general public. People who represent Brownsville citizenry as well as City Staff.
- 2. Staff. People who understand their multiple roles and responsibilities. People who love coming to work. People who are interested in creating the best possible work environment that is full of respect and compassion for the citizens and is honest and trusting among all the ranks of the organization. People who don't complain about what they cannot control but people who are interested in creating practical, cost-effective solutions for those issues they can control. People who expect more than the ordinary from themselves and from each other.
- 3. Organizational Axiom. Creating, developing and maintaining effective relationships with individuals, other civic organizations, County, State & Federal government personnel. Understanding that the number one priority of the City is relationship building. The City shall honor relationships and the ordinances and laws of the land. The City shall be ever mindful of the importance of the social contract of government and the order that it strives to preserve for the sake of freedom.
- 4. Civil Rights Act of 1964. The City creates an environment of equal access to opportunities for all individuals in Brownsville. The City is committed to equal access through Federal and State laws, but also through local practice principled in the elimination of bias and barriers that may exist in the community and from developing in the City's organization. Council shall continue to consider implications of new and past policies that may create unnecessary barriers for members of minority groups, women, veterans and vulnerable populations.

**NOTES:** Council has discussed many organizational theories & objectives as well as identifying important critical thinking models that will serve as a guide for making better decisions. Below are a few of those models:

#### THE PROCESS OF PROGRESS

- 1. Recognize & Identify
  - 2. Accept & Agree
- 3. Strategize & Develop Action Steps

- 4. Implement & Execute5. Review Outcomes
- **LEXIPOL'S 10 FAMILIES OF RISK MODEL** 
  - 1. External Risks
  - 2. Legal & Regulatory Risks
    - 3. Strategic Risks
    - 4. Organizational Risks
      - 5. Operational Risks
      - 6. Information Risks
  - 7. Human Resources Risks
    - 8. Technology Risks
  - 9. Financial and Administrative Risks
    - 10. Political Risks

#### How are expectations set in City Government?

- **→** Laws & Municipal Code
- **♦** Standards
- → Requirements & Rules
- → Memoranda of Understanding
- **→** Contracts
- **→** Agreements
- → Employee Handbook
- **♦** Societal Norms
- **♦** Cultural Nuances
- **♦** Public Opinion

Acceptable
Conduct
vs.
Unacceptable
Conduct

#### **MONTH END FINANCIAL RECAP**

	MAY	202	5						
	REVENUE	EX	PENDITURES	1	YTD	%	ι	Jnexpended	
1 GENERAL	\$ 23,087.74	\$	47,420.41	\$	968,236.06	26.76%	\$	2,650,618.94	1
2 WATER	\$ 45,857.35	\$	22,884.73	\$	491,368.86	43.62%	\$	635,031.14	2
3 SEWER	\$ 46,642.85	\$	24,611.48	\$	323,064.08	28.89%	\$	799,735.92	3
4 STREETS	\$ 19,661.37	\$	13,945.42	\$	172,507.11	42.19%	\$	236,342.89	4
5 DEBT SERVICE (CLRC BOND)	\$ 1	\$	57,996.99	\$	57,996.99	96.66%	\$	2,003.01	
6 WATER BOND	\$ 235.73	\$	-	\$	46,318.96	91.90%	\$	4,081.04	5
7 SEWER BOND	\$ 1,064.57	\$		\$	300,120.39	60.91%	\$	192,579.61	6
8 SEWER DEBT FEE	\$ 13,208.12	\$	-	\$	136,439.83	97.46%	\$	-	7
9 BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	\$ 677.63	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	191,600.00	8
10 WATER RESERVE	\$ 2,808.66	\$	WA - I	\$	-	0.00%	\$	204,000.00	9
11 HOUSING REHAB	\$ 816.06	\$		\$		0.00%	\$	231,100.00	10
12 WATER SDC	\$ 932.77	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	62,500.00	11
13 SEWER SDC	\$ 3,001.26	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	793,500.00	12
14 STORMWATER SDC	\$ 1,105.51	\$	-	\$	-	0.00%	\$	291,000.00	13
15 BIKEWAY/PATHS	\$ 355.14	\$	-	\$	- 1	0.00%	\$	69,070.00	14
16 LIBRARY TRUST	\$ 28.14	\$	<u>-</u>	\$		0.00%	\$	7,920.00	15
17 CEMETERY	\$ 30.65	\$	-	\$	- ///	0.00%	\$	98,292.00	16
18 TRANSIENT ROOM TX	\$ -	\$	-	\$	- ////	0.00%	\$	-	17
19 SEWER CONSTRUCTION	\$ -	\$	-	\$		0.00%	\$	-	18
20 LAND ACQUISITION	\$ -	\$		\$		0.00%	\$	9,985.00	19
21 COMMUNITY PROJECTS	\$ 271.96	\$	1,520.00	\$	21,903.76	28.75%	\$	54,296.24	20
	\$ 159,785.51	\$	168,379.03	\$	2,381,516.21				

Key	Bank	Acco	unt

General Checking	\$	99,642.68
Oregon State Treasury		
General Account	\$	5,812,182.88
Community Improvements	\$	38.76
Project Escrow Holding	\$	110,164.20
CLRC Renovation Acct	Ф	545 022 45

TOTAL OST / LGIP \$ 6,467,418.29

Annual	Bond	<b>Payment</b>
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 Water
 \$ 46,319.02

 Wastewater
 \$ 280,030.98

 Total
 \$ 326,350.00

2024-2025	YTD	% of Total
Appropriated	\$ 491,050.00	26.72%

#### **Total Bonded Debt**

Rec Center Gap Debt Payment is \$57,996.99

Total Bonded Debt is \$5,958,952 (Principle Only)

Total Bonded Debt is \$8,343,239 (Principle & Interest)